



American Welding Society®

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWS REVISES SANITARY PIPE WELDING STANDARD

MIAMI, FL., August 24, 2009 - A second edition of the American Welding Society's AWS D18.1, *Specification for Welding of Austenitic Stainless Steel Tube and Pipe Systems in Sanitary (Hygienic) Applications*, has been published. The standard known as D18.1/D18.1M:2009 supersedes AWS D18.1:1999. A related publication by AWS, D18.2:2009, *Guide to Weld Discoloration Levels on Inside of Austenitic Stainless Steel Tube*, has also been released as a revised edition.

Principal changes in the second edition involve enhancements to the sections on welding procedure qualifications and qualification records. The new edition now also incorporates SI (metric) units as well as U.S. customary units.

The 34 page book specifies requirements for gas tungsten arc welding of austenitic stainless steel tube and pipe at least ¼ inch (6 mm) diameter in the fabrication of sanitary processing systems for handling products for human and animal consumption. It may also be applied to maintenance of food processing equipment and addresses procedure and performance qualification, fabrication, visual examination requirements, and documentation.

D18.2 is a laminated sheet with color photographs showing degrees of coloration on the inside of an austenitic stainless steel tube with increasing amounts of oxygen in the backing shielding gas. It is suitable as a specifying tool and visual examination guide and it includes a two-page instruction sheet.

The revised standards are the collaborative product of the AWS D18 Committee on Welding in Sanitary Applications, which is made up of volunteer experts from the industry.

AWS D18.1/D18.1M: 2009, *Specification for Welding of Austenitic Stainless Steel Tube and Pipe Systems in Sanitary (Hygienic) Applications* is available at (888) WELDING or www.aws.org/standards for \$52. American Welding Society members can purchase the standard for just \$42. AWS D18.2:2009, *Guide to Weld Discoloration Levels on Inside of Austenitic Stainless Steel Tube* can be purchased for \$40. American Welding Society members can purchase the illustration sheet for \$30.

About AWS

The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves more than 50,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with 250 Sections and student chapters. For more information, visit the society's website at <http://www.aws.org> and click on "Pressroom."

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